



**Town of Marion**

**Police Department**

John B. Garcia  
Chief of Police

## **Press Release for Immediate Release**

January 3, 2018

Chief John B. Garcia is pleased to announce that a team of assessors from the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission is scheduled to arrive on January 16, 2018, to begin examining various aspects of the Marion Police Department's policies and procedures, operations and facilities.

Verification by the Assessment Team that the Department meets the Commission's standards is part of a voluntary process to gain state Accreditation -- a self-initiated evaluation process by which police departments strive to meet and maintain standards that have been established *for* the profession, *by* the profession.

The Massachusetts Police Accreditation Program consists of 257 mandatory standards as well as 125 optional standards. In order to achieve accreditation status, the Department must meet all applicable mandatory standards as well as 55% of the optional standards.

Achieving Accreditation is a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence. Anyone interested in learning more about this program is invited to contact Chief Garcia or the Department's Accreditation Manager Lt. Nighelli. Information about the program can also be found on the Massachusetts Accreditation Commission's Website: <http://masspoliceaccred.net/>